

FLOOR COMMITTEE 7

University Education

Chairman and Amendment Guide - Portrait Print-Friendly Edition

KINGDOM OVER CASTLE | MISSIONAL | LOW CONTROL, HIGH ACCOUNTABILITY

Purpose: Help a delegate address the chairman, huddle with the delegation, create or refine amendment language, and speak to Floor Committee 7 resolutions with clear Lutheran identity, congregational service, transparent stewardship, and accountable mission.

Source frame: Today's Business, Issue 1, Committee 7 proposed resolutions. These are proposed resolutions, not final convention action. Check the latest daily issue before moving anything.

One-sentence test

Does this amendment help the Concordias serve students, congregations, church-work formation, and Gospel witness with clear Lutheran identity, transparent stewardship, and proper accountability without unnecessary central control?

Five capitals delegate questions

Capital	Delegate question
Spiritual	Does it strengthen Word, Sacrament, chapel life, catechesis, confession, and Lutheran formation?
Relational	Does it build trust among Synod, CUS, regents, presidents, faculty, students, districts, and congregations?
Physical	Does it steward campuses, chapels, classrooms, residence halls, facilities, and learning spaces?
Intellectual	Does it strengthen Lutheran teaching, academic excellence, faculty formation, governance clarity, and truthful reporting?
Financial	Does it clarify costs, debt, liabilities, scholarships, sustainability, and accountable stewardship?

Christ frame

A Lutheran university is not merely a school with a cross on the brochure. It is a place where truth is taught, vocations are formed, consciences are shaped, and the risen Christ is confessed in classrooms, chapels, dorms, labs, stages, fields, and friendships.

How to address the chairman

- Rise or enter the queue according to the standing rules.
- When recognized: "Mr. Chairman, Robert Bailey, Texas District, pastoral delegate."
- State the action first, then the reason briefly.
- Keep remarks about the resolution, not motives of people.

Motion phrases	Delegation huddle script
- "Mr. Chairman, I move to amend Resolution 7-__ by..."	- What problem are we trying to solve?
- "I speak in favor of the amendment because..."	- Is the amendment narrow and germane?
- "I ask the floor committee whether this concern is already addressed..."	- Does it clarify Lutheran identity or improve local usefulness?
- "I request permission to withdraw or revise my amendment."	- Does it release spiritual, relational, physical, intellectual, or financial capital for Gospel witness?
	- Does it create accountability without unnecessary control?
	- Could this be handled by asking the floor committee a question instead of moving an amendment?

Amendment workflow

Step	What to do	Example phrase
1. Identify	Name the exact resolve or location.	"In the second Resolved..."
2. Draft	Use clean insert, strike, or substitute language.	"Insert after the words..."
3. Explain	One doctrine point and one practical point.	"This strengthens identity and helps campuses..."
4. Huddle	Ask whether the delegation agrees it is worth floor time.	"Is this necessary, or only nice?"
5. Move	Address the chairman and state the amendment.	"Mr. Chairman, I move to amend..."
6. Speak	Support the amendment briefly and fraternally.	"This keeps low control with high accountability..."

Committee 7 dashboard

Priority	Resolution	Why it matters
Highest	7-07 Lutheran identity	The theological axle. Needs Scripture, Confessions, and broad input.
Highest	7-08 Corporate status	Governance, liability, accreditation, finance, and mission implications.
Highest	7-04 Faculty prior approval	Needs clarity, trust, candidate communication, and fair process.
Highest	7-05 Presidential prior approval	Presidents shape spiritual and academic culture.
High	7-06 Worship practices	Universities form students through worship. Needs doctrine, freedom, and teaching.
Medium	7-09 Ann Arbor	Needs pastoral care and transition support.

Master amendment paragraph

Adapt this where implementation is vague or where local usefulness needs to be named:

Resolved, That implementation of this resolution serve the mission of forming students for godly vocations in the Church and world; preserve clear Lutheran identity according to Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions; strengthen relationships among CUS, universities, districts, congregations, students, and church-work programs; and provide a brief report before the 2029 convention describing resources created, accountability strengthened, five capitals stewarded, and lessons learned.

Use when:

- A resolution praises or strengthens CUS but does not name measurable fruit.
- A bylaw or process change needs public clarity or implementation guidance.
- A prior-approval item needs trust, confidentiality, and candidate communication.
- A Lutheran identity item needs Scripture, Confessions, campus input, and local usefulness.
- A governance or financial study needs defined scope, risks, costs, and reporting.

Resolution-by-resolution amendment cards

Each card gives a narrow amendment idea, why it helps, a five-capitals read, a microphone phrase, and one huddle question.

7-01 - Commend the Concordia University System

Priority: Medium

Castle risk: Thanksgiving and commendation may stop at general affirmation without concrete fruit reporting.

Amendment idea

Add a triennial summary before 2029 showing how CUS has strengthened Lutheran identity, church-work formation, student formation, congregational partnership, campus visitations, and financial stewardship.

Why this helps

Commendation is good. Accountability makes thanksgiving concrete and keeps support tied to mission, not institutional self-protection.

Five capitals examples

Capital	Example
Spiritual	Chapel, Lutheran identity, catechesis, church-work formation
Relational	Trust between CUS, campuses, congregations, districts
Physical	Campus visitation and facility stewardship
Intellectual	Lutheran education standards and academic formation
Financial	Clear reporting on support, debt, and sustainability

Microphone phrase

I move to amend by adding a triennial summary of how CUS strengthens Lutheran identity, student formation, church-work formation, congregational partnership, visitation, and financial stewardship.

Delegation huddle question

Does this help commendation become accountable encouragement?

7-02 - Regent training and governance clarity

Priority: High

Castle risk: Regent training could become basic institutional orientation without doctrinal, fiduciary, and mission clarity.

Amendment idea

Clarify that regent training include Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, CUS governance, fiduciary duties, Lutheran identity standards, church-work formation, academic freedom under confession, financial stewardship, conflict-of-interest duties, and each university's relationship to Synod and congregations.

Why this helps

Regents guard more than budgets. They help steward Lutheran mission, identity, trust, and institutional health.

Five capitals examples

Capital	Example
Spiritual	Lutheran doctrine and campus formation
Relational	Regent trust with presidents, faculty, Synod, students
Physical	Oversight of facilities and campus mission spaces
Intellectual	Governance, doctrine, accreditation, academic stewardship
Financial	Budgets, debt, audits, conflicts of interest

Microphone phrase

I move to amend by clarifying the content of regent training, including doctrine, governance, fiduciary duty, Lutheran identity, church-work formation, and financial stewardship.

Delegation huddle question

Would a new regent know what faithfulness, stewardship, and accountability require?

7-03 - CUS Board responsibilities

Priority: High	Castle risk: CUS Board responsibility could remain broad without annual communication that builds trust and clarifies support or correction.
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Amendment idea

Ask the CUS Board of Directors to provide clear annual communication to university boards of regents and the Synod regarding Lutheran identity visitation, mission outcomes, church-work formation, board training, and major areas needing support, correction, or encouragement.

Why this helps

Clear communication prevents rumor, builds trust, and keeps the CUS Board from becoming either passive umbrella or heavy control tower.

Five capitals examples

Capital	Example
Spiritual	Mission outcomes tied to Lutheran confession
Relational	Trust between CUS, regents, presidents, Synod
Physical	Campus visitation reports and support
Intellectual	Board training and mission evaluation
Financial	Transparency on support, risk, and sustainability

Microphone phrase

I move to amend by adding annual communication regarding Lutheran identity visitation, mission outcomes, church-work formation, board training, and areas needing support or correction.

Delegation huddle question

Does this create accountability without micromanaging campuses?

7-04 - Prior approval protocols for university theological faculties

Priority: Highest

Castle risk: A process defended as accountable can still feel foggy, inconsistent, or inaccessible to candidates and universities.

Amendment idea

Ask the CUS BOD, with the Council of Presidents and university leaders, to develop a plain-language public guide explaining the theology faculty prior approval process, including purpose, criteria, steps, panel composition, district president notification, confidentiality boundaries, candidate communication, and appeal or reconsideration options where applicable.

Why this helps

Theological faculty form students and future church workers. Accountability must be clear, fair, doctrinal, and understandable.

Five capitals examples

Capital	Example
Spiritual	Theological faculty teach and model the faith
Relational	Trust among candidates, universities, CUS, COP, districts
Physical	Classrooms, chapel, campus communities
Intellectual	Criteria, doctrine, practice, qualifications
Financial	Avoid wasted searches and process disputes

Microphone phrase

I move to amend by asking for a plain-language public guide to the theology faculty prior approval process, including criteria, steps, panel composition, confidentiality, district notification, and candidate communication.

Delegation huddle question

Would a candidate, regent, or president understand the process before trouble starts?

7-05 - Prior approval protocols for university presidential candidates

Priority: Highest

Castle risk: Presidential approval may lack public clarity around theological expectations, confidentiality, and district communication.

Amendment idea

Add clear published guidance on theological expectations, leadership qualifications, Lutheran identity responsibilities, church-work formation commitments, board and faculty accountability, communication with the appropriate district president, and confidentiality boundaries in the search process.

Why this helps

A Concordia president is not merely a CEO with a chapel calendar. This office shapes spiritual, academic, and institutional culture.

Five capitals examples

Capital	Example
Spiritual	President guards Lutheran identity and campus spiritual life
Relational	Trust with regents, faculty, students, Synod, districts
Physical	Campus culture, chapel, classrooms, student life
Intellectual	Academic leadership under Lutheran confession
Financial	Institutional sustainability and stewardship

Microphone phrase

I move to amend by adding clear public guidance for presidential prior approval expectations, Lutheran identity responsibilities, district communication, and confidentiality boundaries.

Delegation huddle question

Does this make the process clearer without turning searches into public wrestling matches?

7-06 - University worship practices

Priority: High

Castle risk: Worship guidance could become either vague encouragement or a liturgical compliance clipboard.

Amendment idea

Clarify that guidance on university worship practices distinguish doctrine from human ceremony, encourage historically Lutheran and confessionally faithful worship, honor the formative role of campus chapel, provide teaching for students unfamiliar with Lutheran worship, and allow faithful local campus application under appropriate pastoral and ecclesiastical oversight.

Why this helps

Campus worship forms students. Guidance should teach and strengthen, not merely police or flatten faithful local application.

Five capitals examples

Capital	Example
Spiritual	Word, Sacrament, hymnody, liturgy, prayer
Relational	Students, chaplains, faculty, worship leaders
Physical	Chapels, worship spaces, campus gatherings
Intellectual	Teach the theology of worship
Financial	Worship resources, hymnals, chapel staffing

Microphone phrase

I move to amend by clarifying that worship guidance distinguish doctrine from human ceremony, teach Lutheran worship, and allow faithful campus application under pastoral oversight.

Delegation huddle question

Does this protect Lutheran worship while teaching rather than merely policing?

7-07 - Lutheran identity and Lutheran Identity Mission Outcome Standards

Priority: Highest

Castle risk: Lutheran identity can become a slogan, vibe, cultural memory, or compliance category without confessional clarity and campus input.

Amendment idea

Ground Lutheran identity explicitly in Scripture and the Lutheran Confessions, especially pure Gospel teaching, right administration of the Sacraments, catechesis, vocation, church-work formation, academic life under Christ, chapel and worship life, and service to congregations, schools, and the world; seek input from presidents, regents, theology faculty, campus pastors, church-work faculty, students, alumni, district leaders, and congregational representatives before the 2029 report.

Why this helps

Lutheran identity is the axle on the wagon. If it is crooked, everything else wobbles.

Five capitals examples

Capital	Example
Spiritual	Gospel, Sacraments, catechesis, worship, prayer
Relational	Trust among campuses, CUS, districts, congregations
Physical	Chapel, classrooms, student life, campus ministries
Intellectual	Scriptural and confessional references in standards
Financial	Align funding and priorities with Lutheran mission

Microphone phrase

I move to amend by grounding Lutheran identity explicitly in Scripture and the Confessions and requiring broad campus, district, student, alumni, and congregational input before the 2029 report.

Delegation huddle question

Does this define Lutheran identity clearly enough to guide actual decisions?

7-08 - Study Synodwide corporate status of CUS

Priority: Highest

Castle risk: A corporate-status study could be too narrow, preloaded, or disconnected from governance, legal, financial, accreditation, and mission realities.

Amendment idea

Require the study to include theological, governance, financial, legal, accreditation, liability, relational, and mission implications; consult the LCMS BOD, CUS BOD, Institution Advisory Council, presidents, regents, district presidents, legal and financial counsel, and church-work representatives; include options, risks, costs, benefits, transition implications, and how each option strengthens Lutheran identity, protects the Synod, and serves students, congregations, and church-work formation.

Why this helps

Do not assume the answer before the study. Define the study so the 2029 convention gets real options, not fog in a folder.

Five capitals examples

Capital	Example
Spiritual	Protect Lutheran identity and mission outcomes
Relational	Trust among BOD, CUS, campuses, districts
Physical	Campuses, facilities, corporate structures
Intellectual	Governance, accreditation, legal and financial analysis
Financial	Debt, liability, study cost, support, transition costs

Microphone phrase

I move to amend by requiring the study to include theological, governance, financial, legal, accreditation, liability, relational, and mission implications, with clear options, risks, costs, benefits, and transition effects.

Delegation huddle question

Will this study actually equip 2029 delegates to decide wisely?

7-09 - Give thanks for Concordia University Ann Arbor

Priority: Medium

Castle risk: Thanksgiving could overlook grief, transitions, displaced students, affected workers, alumni, and the Michigan District.

Amendment idea

Encourage continued pastoral care, communication, and support for students, families, faculty, staff, alumni, congregations, and the Michigan District affected by the Ann Arbor closure; ask CUS and appropriate leaders, where legally and practically possible, to provide guidance on student transitions, church-work pathways, record access, alumni connection, and future opportunities for Lutheran higher education and church-work formation in Michigan.

Why this helps

Thanksgiving should not read like a legal memo wearing a tissue. Real people need pastoral care and practical guidance.

Five capitals examples

Capital	Example
Spiritual	Prayer, grief care, Christian hope, forgiveness
Relational	Students, faculty, alumni, Michigan District, congregations
Physical	Campus closure, records, transfer pathways
Intellectual	Future church-work formation options
Financial	Student support, scholarship concerns, closure costs

Microphone phrase

I move to amend by adding continued pastoral care and practical transition guidance for students, families, faculty, staff, alumni, congregations, and the Michigan District.

Delegation huddle question

Does this care for the people affected, not only the institutional memory?

7-10 - Respectfully decline overtures

Priority: Medium

Castle risk: Declining overtures may bury real concerns about governance, identity, worship, transparency, closures, and church-work formation.

Amendment idea

While declining these overtures, encourage continued study and conversation through appropriate boards and commissions regarding Concordia governance, Lutheran identity, university worship, financial transparency, campus closures, church-work formation, and the relationship between Synod, CUS, universities, districts, and congregations.

Why this helps

Sometimes the overture wording is not right, but the concern still deserves a proper path.

Five capitals examples

Capital	Example
Spiritual	Keep Lutheran identity and worship central
Relational	Repair trust after conflict
Physical	Campus realities and closures
Intellectual	Governance and theological clarity
Financial	Transparency and sustainability

Microphone phrase

I move to amend by encouraging continued study and conversation on governance, Lutheran identity, worship, transparency, campus closures, church-work formation, and Synod-university relationships.

Delegation huddle question

Does this decline the overtures while keeping worthy concerns alive?

Closing Gospel frame

The Concordias matter because students matter, congregations matter, future church workers matter, and Christ's mission matters. The goal is not institutional survival for its own sake. The goal is to form students for godly vocations in the Church and world under Scripture, the Lutheran Confessions, chapel life, academic excellence, and service to Christ's mission.

Final frame

Christ is risen indeed, and our universities should not be castles to defend or brands to preserve, but living schools of vocation, confession, wisdom, and Gospel witness.